

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS

Tyler Burke

Director of Government & Public Affairs, Columbia Gas of Kentucky



Biography

Raised in Prestonsburg and just a stone's throw from his grandparents, Tyler Burke never lost sight of the community that shaped him.

Today, Tyler serves as Director of Government & Public Affairs for Columbia Gas of Kentucky, where he leads government relations, public policy, and stakeholder engagement efforts across the company's service territory. His career with Columbia Gas spans more than a decade and includes roles as Major Account Representative, Major Accounts & Economic Development Manager, Manager of Large Customer Relations & Economic Development, and, most recently, Director of Government & Public Affairs.

Throughout that journey, Tyler helped communities pursue investment, supported business growth, strengthened relationships with local governments, and worked alongside economic development partners to create opportunities across Kentucky. For years, he served as the company's primary relationship manager for some of the Commonwealth's largest commercial and industrial customers while helping communities compete for expansion projects, infrastructure investment, and job growth. He also helped build and execute Columbia Gas of Kentucky's municipal strategy, strengthening relationships with local leaders throughout the company's service territory.

Tyler is the Immediate Past Chair of One East Kentucky and serves on several economic development, tourism, recreation, and industry boards, including the Kentucky Oil & Gas Association. A graduate of the University of Kentucky and Leadership Kentucky, he remains actively involved in initiatives that strengthen Eastern Kentucky communities and create opportunities throughout Appalachia.

An avid mountain biker, Tyler is passionate about showcasing the natural beauty of Eastern Kentucky and supporting projects that improve quality of life, tourism, and outdoor recreation throughout the region.

Tyler and his wife, Emily, are raising their daughter, Evelyn, in Prestonsburg.

Why Should This Nominee Be Recognized as Kentucky's Young Professional of the Year?

Some people leave home and build successful careers. Tyler Burke built a successful career by investing in home.

Raised in Prestonsburg, just a stone's throw from his grandparents, Tyler learned early the importance of community, hard work, and looking out for your neighbors. Those values continue to guide both his professional and volunteer work today.

While many young professionals leave their hometowns in pursuit of opportunity, Tyler chose a different path. He built his career in Eastern Kentucky and dedicated his leadership to helping create opportunities for others in the region he loves. Throughout his career, he has worked to strengthen communities, support economic growth, and connect people around a shared vision for Kentucky's future.

As Immediate Past Chair of One East Kentucky and through service on numerous civic, tourism, economic development, and industry organizations, Tyler has championed collaboration across counties, industries, and communities. He has become a trusted voice because he understands that long-term progress requires strong relationships, shared goals, and leaders willing to invest in the places they serve.

What makes Tyler's story especially compelling is that his commitment is deeply personal. The communities he serves are the same communities that raised him. The people he works alongside are his neighbors. The region he champions is the place he still calls home.

Today, Tyler and his wife, Emily, are raising their daughter, Evelyn, in the same community that helped shape his character and values.

Before turning 40 this summer, Tyler had already established himself as one of Eastern Kentucky's most respected young leaders. His accomplishments are impressive, but what truly sets him apart is his unwavering commitment to the people and places that shaped him.